

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SENATOR GEORGE ONORATO RECEIVES PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Senator George Onorato, who is this year's recipient of the "Public Service Award" from the Kiwanis Club of Astoria/Long Island City. Senator Onorato's numerous contributions during his career have helped shape the face of this great city. It is a pleasure to pay tribute to this esteemed public servant.

Senator George Onorato was elected to the New York State Senate in a special election in June of 1983, when he won a highly contested three-candidate race. During his first year in the Senate, the Senator was the Prime Cosponsor of the used car 'lemon law.' Since his election, Senator Onorato has been actively involved in tenants rights issues and landlord equity.

A tenacious advocate of Senior Citizen issues, the Senator worked tirelessly toward implementation of the Elderly Pharmaceutical Insurance Coverage Program (EPIC), and has consistently co-sponsored legislation that would make prescription medication affordable to our Senior Citizens. Through his position as a member of the Senate Minority Task Force on Waterfront Development, Senator Onorato has been deeply involved in the redevelopment of the Hunter Point area.

The Senator also continues to be supportive of numerous civic and community renewal groups and their projects. He has served with the Riker's Island Liaison Group that monitors conditions and takes unified action to respond to problems associated with community proximity to Riker's Island. He is also a member of the New York State Senate Democratic Puerto Rican and Hispanic Task Force. As a determined member of the Senate Minority Task Force on Vietnam Veterans and the Acting Ranking Minority Member of the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, Senator Onorato sponsored legislation providing for student aid to Vietnam veterans, and in 1997 introduced legislation to increase the level of such funding. He sponsored and supported legislation requiring identification of handicapped children of Vietnam veterans in order to assist in developing a data base for research on dioxin-related birth defects.

Greatly concerned over air quality, Senator Onorato continues to be involved in negotiations that would help limit the emission of pollutants by power plants. His district in Queens has some of the dirtiest power plants in Queens. Understanding the health impacts on his constituents, Senator Onorato has been a leading proponent for cleaning up the dirty plants.

As an active participant in community affairs, Senator Onorato has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of one of the

most prominent Democratic clubs in New York City, the Tamiment Regular Democratic Club. A lifelong resident of Astoria, Senator Onorato is a proud father of three and grandfather of six. He received a Presidential Citation while serving in the United States Army, 118th Medical Battalion from 1950–1952.

Senator Onorato has always proudly sported his Italian heritage, and has promoted and championed good relations between Italy and the United States. He has traveled on numerous occasions to Italy, meeting with numerous dignitaries and businessmen in Tuscany to promote trade and government relations between our two countries.

In recognition of his many outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Senator Onorato.

IN HONOR OF THE ADDITION OF SHERIFF JOACHIM MATTHEWS TO THE NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT MEMORIAL

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Sheriff Joachim Matthews. Sheriff Matthews, who was killed in the line of duty ninety-two years ago this December 1, will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington, D.C. today.

Joachim Matthews served Macomb County as Sheriff for nearly four years, from 1906 until his death in 1910. Responding to a report of malicious activity on a farm, Sheriff Matthews was shot by a young man who mistook him for a robber. An investigation into the incident ruled the shooting to be accidental.

Sixty years of age at the time of his death, Sheriff Matthews left behind a wife and five children. Many of his descendants still live in the Mount Clemens area.

It is only fitting that a public servant like Joachim Matthews is recognized on the National Law Enforcement Memorial for his service to the citizens of Macomb County. He paid the ultimate price while fulfilling the duties of his office. Truly, he represents the best ideals of law enforcement: dedication, devotion, and duty.

Sheriff Matthews' name will be added today to the National Law Enforcement Memorial at a candlelight vigil. As he is remembered through this distinction, we should also honor his memory by praying for the safety and security of all men and women in law enforcement.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF COMMANDER GARY SCHRAM

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding naval officer, Commander Gary Schram, who served with distinction and dedication during the last year as a Navy Appropriations Liaison Officer in the Assistant Secretary of the Navy's (FM&C) Appropriations Matters Office. It is a privilege for me to join my colleagues and the members of my Committee on Appropriations in recognizing his excellent work and the professionalism with which he has represented the United States Navy.

Through his work with the members and staff of my committee, and our Subcommittee on Defense, Gary has provided timely and accurate information that has been invaluable to us in making many important decisions about the future structure of the Navy. His areas of responsibility included highly sensitive and timely programs that have been critical to our successful war against terrorism.

Gary recently escorted my Congressional Delegation on a trip to Russia and several other countries. I greatly appreciate the time and effort he spent on this and other trips. His planning and coordination made these trips extremely successful enabling us to visit with numerous foreign dignitaries and U.S. service personnel in Europe in a relatively short amount of time. My colleagues and staff who have enjoyed working with Gary will sorely miss him. We know, however, that Gary is returning to his first love which is flying Navy jets and his next assignment as the Executive Officer of an S-3 squadron in my home state of Florida will be great training for his future job as a squadron Commanding Officer. There is no doubt in my mind that Gary will be a great XO and CO who ensures that his squadron performs safely while remaining ready to deploy and fight if necessary.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I wish Gary, his wife Diana, and their son Gary the very best as they relocate to Jacksonville, Florida. This Navy family continues to make many sacrifices to serve our nation and Commander Schram's distinguished and unselfish service exemplifies the Navy's core values of honor, courage and commitment.

EXPAND ALASKA NATIVE CONTRACTING OF FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to expand Alaska

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